CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A compound of formula:

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of

Η,

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted with a group selected from ${\sf OR}^6,$ cycloalkyl, and ${\sf NR}^7{\sf R}^8,$

cycloalkyl,

COR9, and

 SO_2R^{10} ;

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{R}}^2$ is selected from the group consisting of

Η,

F,

CI, and

CH₃;

 ${\sf R}^3,\,{\sf R}^4$ and ${\sf R}^5$ are each independently selected from the group consisting of

Η,

lower alkyl, which optionally may be substituted with a group selected from OR^6 and $\mathsf{NR}^7\mathsf{R}^8$,

OR¹¹,

NR¹²R¹³,

halogen,

NO₂,

CONR⁶R⁹.

NHSO₂R¹⁴,

CN

S-lower alkyl,

OCF₃, and

OCHF₂,

or alternatively, R³ and R⁴ taken together with the two carbons and the bond between them from the benzene ring (D) to which R³ and R⁴ are attached can form a ring system having up to two additional rings, each of said rings having 5-7 atoms, and the ring attached to the benzene ring (D) optionally including one or more hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by lower alkyl,

provided that R^3 and R^4 are not simultaneously -OCH₃, and provided further that R^4 is not -Cl when R^3 is -NO₂;

R⁶ and R⁹ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, and

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OH and halogen;

R⁷ and R⁸ are independently selected from the group consisting of

H, and

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OR⁶,

or, alternatively, R⁷ is H and R⁸ is OH,

or, alternatively, NR⁷R⁸ can optionally form a ring having 5-6 atoms, said ring optionally including one or more additional hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by the group consisting of one or more of OR⁶ and lower alkyl which itself may be optionally substituted by OH;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl which optionally may be substituted by one or more chlorine or fluorine, and

 NH_2 ;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of

H. and

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OR^6 , COOH, halogen and $NR^{15}R^{16}$;

 R^{12} and R^{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of H,

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted with a group selected from ${\rm OR}^6,$ COOH and ${\rm NR}^{15}{\rm R}^{16},$

COR¹⁷, and

SO₂R¹⁸,

provided that only one of R¹² and R¹³ is COR¹⁷ or SO₂R¹⁸,

or alternatively NR¹²R¹³ can optionally form a ring having 5-6 atoms, said ring optionally including one or more additional hetero atoms and being optionally

substituted by the group consisting of one or more of $\,$ OR 6 and lower alkyl which itself may be optionally substituted by OH;

R¹⁴ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, and lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OH,

or alternatively NR¹⁵R¹⁶ can optionally form a ring having 5-6 atoms, said ring optionally including one or more additional hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by the group consisting of one or more of OR⁶ and lower alkyl which itself may be optionally substituted by OH;

R¹⁷ is selected from the group consisting of
H, and
lower alkyl which optionally may be substituted with a group selected from OH, COOH and NR¹⁵R¹⁶; and

R¹⁸ is lower alkyl.

- 2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, CH₂CH₂OH, CH₂CH₂OH, CH₃CO-, CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, cyclopropylmethyl and CH₃.
- 3. The compound of claim 2 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, CH₂CH₂CH₂OH and CH(CH₃)₂.
- 4. The compound of claim 1 wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of H and fluorine.
 - 5. The compound of claim 4 wherein R² is H.

- 6. The compound of claim 2 wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of H and fluorine.
 - 7. The compound of claim 3 wherein R² is H.
- 8. The compound of claim 1 wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of OR¹¹, lower alkyl, NH2, Cl, F, H, OCHF₂ and NO₂.
- 9. The compound claim 6 wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of OR¹¹, lower alkyl, NH2, Cl, F, H, OCHF₂ and NO₂.
- 10. The compound of claim 7 wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of F, OCH₃ and CH₂CH₃.
- 11. The compound of claim 8 wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of F, OCH₃ and CH₂CH₃.
- 12. The compound of claim 1 wherein R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of acetamido, chloro, diethylamino, hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-ethylamino, [1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino, 1-(3-hydroxymethyl) piperidinyl, 4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl, methoxy, 2-methoxyethylamino, 2-methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, morpholino, piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl.
- 13. The compound of claim 12 wherein R^4 is selected from the group consisting of H and CH_3O_- .
- 14. The compound of claim 9 wherein R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of acetamido, chloro, diethylamino, hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-ethylamino, [1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino, 1-(3-hydroxymethyl)

piperidinyl, 4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl, methoxy, 2-methoxyethylamino, 2-methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, morpholino, piperidinyl and pyrrolidinyl.

- 15. The compound of claim 10, wherein R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of acetamido, chloro, diethylamino, hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-ethylamino, [1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino, 1-(3-hydroxymethyl) piperidinyl, 4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl, methoxy, 2-methoxyethylamino, 2-methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, morpholino, piperidinyl and pyrrolidinyl.
- 16. The compound of claim 11, selected from the group consisting of acetamido, chloro, diethylamino, hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-ethylamino, [1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino, 1-(3-hydroxymethyl) piperidinyl, 4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl, methoxy, 2-methoxyethylamino, 2-methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, morpholino, piperidinyl and pyrrolidinyl.
- 17. The compound of claim 1 wherein R³ and R⁴ taken together with the benzene ring to which they are attached form a polycyclic ring system.
- 18. The compound of claim 17 wherein the ring system is selected from the group consisting of 2-dibenzofuranyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl, and 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin-7-yl.
- 19. The compound of claim 6 wherein R³ and R⁴ taken together with the benzene ring to which they are attached form a polycyclic ring system.
- 20. The compound of claim 7 wherein R³ and R⁴ taken together with the benzene ring to which they are attached form a polycyclic ring system.

- 21. The compound of claim 19 wherein the ring system selected from the group consisting of 2-dibenzofuranyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl, or 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin-7-yl.
- 22. The compound of claim 20 wherein the ring system selected from the group consisting of 2-dibenzofuranyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl, or 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin-7-yl.
- 23. The compound of claim 17 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin-7-yl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](2-dibenzofuranyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)methanone,

1-Acetyl-4-[4-[[4-amino-5-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)carbonyl]-2-thiazolyl] amino]phenyl]piperazine, and

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)methanone.

24. The compound of claim 17 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-5-yl)methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-methanone,

4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-sec-butyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-sec-butyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopentyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-methanone,

 $\label{eq:control} $$ \{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopentyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl\}-$$ (2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-methanone,$

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-methanone.

- 25. The compound of claim 1 wherein R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of H and F.
 - 26. The compound of claim 25 wherein R⁵ is F.
 - 27. The compound of claim 19 wherein R⁵ is F.
 - 28. The compound of claim 22 wherein R⁵ is F.
- 29. The compound of claim 26 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (3,5-difluorophenyl)methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-methanone, and

[4-Amino-2-(4-piperazin-1-yl-phenylamino)-thiazol-5-yl]-(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)-methanone.

- 30. The compound of claim 25 wherein R⁵ is H.
- 31. The compound of claim 1 wherein at least one of \mathbb{R}^3 , \mathbb{R}^4 and \mathbb{R}^5 is halogen.
- 32. The compound of claim 31 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3,4-dichlorophenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (3-fluorophenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-fluorophenyl) methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-sec-butyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-methanone.

- 33. The compound of claim 1 wherein at least one of R^3 , R^4 and R^5 is selected from the group consisting of OR^{11} , OCF_3 , and $OCHF_2$.
- 34. The compound of claim 33 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl]-(4-hydroxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](4-methoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-methoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-methoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-methoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (3-methoxyphenyl)methanone, and

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino)-5-thiazolyl](3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)methanone.

35. The compound of claim 33 which is selected from the group consisting of:

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(4-fluoro-3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(4-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(4-fluoro-3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone.

36. The compound of claim 33 which is selected from the group consisting of:

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

[4-Amino-2-(4-piperazin-1-yl-phenylamino)-thiazol-5-yl]-(3,5-difluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

[4-Amino-2-(4-piperazin-1-yl-phenylamino)-thiazol-5-yl]-(4-fluoro-3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

[4-Amino-2-(4-piperazin-1-yl-phenylamino)-thiazol-5-yl]-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-hydroxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isobutyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-hydroxy-phenyl)-methanone,

[4-Amino-2-(4-piperazin-1-yl-phenylamino)-thiazol-5-yl]-(3-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-4-hydroxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-cyclopropylmethyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-hydroxy-phenyl)-methanone.

- 37. The compound of claim 1 wherein each of R^3 , R^4 and R^5 is independently selected from NO_2 , $NHSO_2R^4$ and $NR^{12}R^{13}$.
- 38. The compound of claim 37 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][4-(1-piperidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][4-(4-morpholinyl)phenyl]methanone, acetate salt,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](3-nitrophenyl)methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][4-(diethylamino)phenyl]methanone,

N-[4-[[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl]carbonyl]phenyl]acetamide,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] [4-(diethylamino)phenyl]methanone,

1-Acetyl-4-[4-[[4-amino-5-[4-(diethylamino)benzoyl]-2-thiazolyl]amino] phenyl]piperazine, trifluoroacetate salt,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] [4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino)-5-thiazolyl][4-(1-pyrrolidinyl) phenyl]methanone, and

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][4-(2-hydroxyethyl)amino-3-nitrophenyl]methanone.

39. The compound of claim 37 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-nitro-4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-nitro-4-(4-morpholinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-nitro-4-[(2-methoxyethyl)amino]phenyl]methanone,

racemic [4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] [3-nitro-4-[3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]phenyl]methanone,

racemic [4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] [3-nitro-4-(2-methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

(R)-[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-nitro-4-[[1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino]phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-nitro-4-(4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl][3-amino-4-(4-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone, and

(R)-[3-Amino-4-[[1-(hydroxymethyl)-3-methylbutyl]amino]phenyl][4-amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl]methanone.

40. The compound of claim 37 which is selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] [4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)phenyl]methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-nitro-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(4-piperidin-1-yl-phenyl)-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(4-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-methanone.

- 41. The compound of claim 1 wherein any one or more of \mathbb{R}^3 , \mathbb{R}^4 and \mathbb{R}^5 is CN.
- 42. The compound of claim 41 which is selected from the group consisting of:
- 3-(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazole-5-carbonyl)-benzonitrile,
- 3-{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-isopropyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazole-5-carbonyl}-benzonitrile, and
- 3-{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazole-5-carbonyl}-benzonitrile.
- 43. The compound of claim 1 wherein each one of R³, R⁴ and R⁵ is independently selected from H and lower alkyl.
- 44. The compound of claim 43 which is selected from the group consisting of:
- (4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-m-tolyl-methanone,

(4-Amino-2-{4-[4-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl]-phenylamino}-thiazol-5-yl)-(3-ethyl-phenyl)-methanone,

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-(3-ethyl-phenyl)-methanone, and

{4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-m-tolyl-methanone.

- 45. The compound of claim 1 wherein at least one of R³, R⁴ and R⁵ is selected from S-lower akyl.
- 46. The compound of claim 45 which is {4-Amino-2-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}(3methylsulfanyl-phenyl)-methanone.
 - 47. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

[4-Amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-yl)methanone, and

[4-Amino-2-[[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl] (3-methoxyphenyl)methanone.

- 48. The compound 1-(4-isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-(1-methylethyl) piperazine.
- 49. The compound 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-(4-isothiocyanatophenyl) piperazine.

- 50. The compound carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl) phenylamino]thioxomethyl], polymer bound.
- 51. The compound carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenylamino]thioxomethyl], polymer bound.
- 52. The compound carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenylamino]thioxomethyl], polymer bound.
 - 53. A compound of formula:

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of

H, and

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OR⁶;

 ${\sf R}^2$ is selected from the group consisting of H and F;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of

Η,

lower alkyl

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halogen, NR^{12}R^{13}, NO_{2}, OCHF_{2}, \text{ and } OR^{11}; R^{4} \text{ is selected from the group consisting of } H, lower alkyl \text{ that optionally may be may be substituted by } OR^{6}, halogen, NR^{12}R^{13},
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or alternatively, R^3 and R^4 taken together with the two carbons and the bond between them from the benzene ring (D) to which R^3 and R^4 are attached can form a ring system having up to two additional rings, each of said rings having 5-7 atoms, and the ring attached to the benzene ring (D) optionally including one or more hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by lower alkyl,

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provided that R<sup>4</sup> is not -CI when R<sup>3</sup> is -NO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sup>6</sup> is selected from the group consisting of
H, and
methyl;

R<sup>11</sup> is selected from the group consisting of
H, and
lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by a group selected from OR<sup>6</sup>, COOH, halogen and NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>;

R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of
H,
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lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted $\,$ with a group selected from ${\rm OR}^6,\,{\rm COOH}$ and ${\rm NR}^{15}{\rm R}^{16},\,$

or alternatively NR¹²R¹³ can optionally form a ring having 5-6 atoms, said ring optionally including one or more additional hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by the group consisting of one or more of OR⁶ and lower alkyl which itself may be optionally substituted by OH; and

R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of H, and

lower alkyl that optionally may be substituted by OH,

or alternatively NR¹⁵R¹⁶ can optionally form a ring having 5-6 atoms, said ring optionally including one or more additional hetero atoms and being optionally substituted by the group consisting of one or more of OR⁶ and lower alkyl which itself may be optionally substituted by OH.

54. A compound of formula:

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H,

CH₂CH₂OH,

CH₂CH₂CH₂OH,

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CH<sub>3</sub>CO-,
    CH(CH_3)_2,
    CH_2CH(CH_3)_2,
    cyclopropylmethyl, and
    CH<sub>3</sub>;
R<sup>2</sup> is selected from the group consisting of
    H and F;
R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of
    OR<sup>11</sup>,
    lower alkyl,
     NH<sub>2</sub>,
     CI,
     F,
     Η,
     OCHF<sub>2</sub>, and
     NO<sub>2</sub>;
R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of
     H, and
     diethylamino;
R<sup>5</sup> is H; and
R<sup>11</sup> is unsubstituted lower alkyl.
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55. A compound of formula:

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of

H,

CH₂CH₂CH₂OH,

 $CH(CH_3)_2$,

CH₃, and

cyclopropylmethyl;

R², R⁴ and R⁵ are H; and

R³ is selected from the group consisting of

OCH₃,

F, and

CH₂CH₃.

- 56. A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
- 57. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 56 which is suitable for parenteral administration.

- 58. A method for treating cancer comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
 - 59. The method of claim 58 wherein the cancer is a solid tumor.
- 60. The method of claim 59 wherein the solid tumor is a breast, colon, lung or prostate tumor.
 - 61. A compound selected from the group consisting of:
 - 1-(2-Fluoro-4-isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-methylpiperazine,
 - 1-(1-Methylethyl)-4-(4-nitrophenylpiperazine),
 - 4-[4-(1-Methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]benzenamine,
 - 1-(4-Isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-(1-methylethyl)piperazine,
 - 4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1-(4-isothiocyanatophenyl)piperazine,
 - 1-(4-Isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-(2-methoxy-ethyl)piperazine,
 - 1-(4-Isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-(1-methylpropyl)piperazine,
 - 4-Cyclopentyl-1-(4-isothiocyanatophenyl)piperazine,
 - 1-(4-Isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-(2-methylpropyl)piperazine, and
 - 4-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-1-(4-isothiocyanatophenyl)piperazine.
 - 62. A compound selected from the group consisting of:
 - 2-Bromo-1-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)ethanone,
 - 2-Bromo-1-(4-fluoro-3-methoxy-phenyl)ethanone,
 - 2-Bromo-1-(4-fluoro-3-methoxy-phenyl)ethanone, and
 - 2-Bromo-1-(3-difluoromethoxy-phenyl)ethanone.

63. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[3-fluoro-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(1-methylethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-(4-acetyl-1-piperazinyl)phenylamino]thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]-1-piperazinyl] phenylamino]thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl] phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(1-methylpropyl)-1-piperazinyl] phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-(4-cyclopentyl-1-piperazinyl)phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound,

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(2-methylpropyl)-1-piperazinyl] phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound, and

Carbamimidothioic acid, [[4-[4-(3-hydroxypropyl)-1-piperazinyl] phenylamino] thioxomethyl], polymer bound.

64. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

[4-amino-2-[[4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)phenyl]amino]-5-thiazolyl](4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl)methanone,

4-[4-[[4-Amino-5-(3-fluorobenzoyl)-2-thiazolyl]amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinecarboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester,

4-[4-[4-Amino-5-[4-(1-pyrrolidinyl)benzoyl]-2-thiazolyl]amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinecarboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester, and

4-[4-[[4-Amino-5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxybenzoyl)-2-thiazolyl]amino]phenyl]-1-piperazinecarboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester.